

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

BOILING SPRING BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

UNION CHURCH,

CLAY COUNTY, ALA.,

*Sept. 21, 22, 23, 24, 1882.*

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OFFICERS:

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| ELDER T. H. HOWLE, | - - - - - | MODERATOR. |
| J. H. FULLERTON,   | - - - - - | CLERK.     |
| J. C. BEAN,        | - - - - - | TREASURER. |



SELMA, ALA.:

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## MINUTES.

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UNION CHURCH, September 21, 1882.

The Boiling Spring Baptist Association convened with Union church, Clay county, Ala., September 21st, 1882.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Bro. J. W. Chandler, followed by Elder Mansel Garrette, from 51st Psalm, 10th verse.

After intermission of an hour the messengers assembled in the house.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. J. C. Bean acting Clerk. Prayer by Bro. D. N. Hembree.

The Moderator requested brethren W. M. Daniel, W. W. Payne, W. H. Preston to receive and T. W. Newsom, J. H. Fullerton to read the letters from the churches.

Messengers' names enrolled as follows :

### FIRST DISTRICT.

Bethlehem—J. H. Davis, W. N. Bean, J. C. Bean, J. M. Camp, W. J. Young, Lewis Manning, J. F. Pilkinton.

Sardis—David Lackey, A. B. Limbough, R. F. Clark.

Ebenezer—Jesse Mitchell, T. L. Conn, W. F. Burke, S. V. Hughs.

Providence—B. Millsaps, Walter Gilbert, J. Burke.

Salt Creek—L. N. Butterworth, R. A. Adams, Albert Adams, N. B. Butterworth, A. J. Adams, J. N. Roberts.

Union—R. R. Carter, S. B. Turner, H. T. Mitchell, T. W. Newsom.

Mt. Pisgah—J. L. W. Davis, T. P. Chandler, J. S. Walker.

Hopeful—Dissolved.

### SECOND DISTRICT.

Hephzibah—J. B. Campbell, T. J. Strong, J. A. Thrash, J. T. Hatten.

Bethel—N. T. Leverette, W. M. Daniel, J. S. Armstrong.

Pleasant Hill—W. H. Wood, J. M. Campbell, N. C. Kennedy, J. C. Morris.

New Harmony—J. R. H. Kelly, J. E. Smith, E. J. Reid.

Bethsaida—J. H. Ables, A. J. Smith, J. L. Chandler, R. Davis.

Corinth—J. H. Bowman, W. F. Lee, W. McKenzie, W. P. Newell, C. N. G. Smith.

### THIRD DISTRICT.

Mt. Moriah—G. H. Preston, E. A. Smith, E. F. Lester, W. G. Preston.

Ramah—J. M. Hardy, T. J. McClintock, J. H. Fullerton, W. B. Matthews.

Christiana—T. J. Thompson, J. R. McKinnie, W. H. Taylor, A. Young.

Pleasant Hill—D. B. Woodward, J. T. Haynes, J. S. Moore, G. Sanders.

Good Hope—W. W. Payne, I. Haynes, J. L. McClintock, R. C. Miller.

The Moderator announced the election of officers in order, and requested Elder Mansel Garrette and Bros. J. T. Dameret and F. L. Miller to act as tellers in the election. Elder T. H. Howle was re-elected Moderator, and J. H. Fullerton, Clerk.

The Moderator, in a few remarks, thanked the Association for the renewed expression of their confidence shown in his re-election, and, accepting the position, announced the organization complete and ready for business.

On motion, the order of business of the former session was adopted.

The Rules of Decorum were read.

Letters from churches desiring membership with this body were called for.

Correspondents from sister Associations were called for and received, as follows : Bros. D. Coley and F. L. Miller, from Arbacoochee Association. From Cary Association, Bros. J. L. Birchfield and J. T. Dameret.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us and Elder M. Garrette, from Ten Island and Tallassehatchie, was received.

Correspondents were welcomed by the Moderator.

A Committee on Preaching was appointed, as follows : Isaac Haynes, John Thompson, E. A. Smith, to confer with the deacons of Union church.

The Committee on Preaching reported, Bros. J. G. Nall and R. C. A. Ashcraft to preach at candle light.

On motion, by J. H. Ables, adjourned until 9 o'clock Friday morning.

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FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Association met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder A. F. Allen.

The call for correspondents was renewed.

Reports of Standing Committees were called for.

The report on Domestic Missions was read and ably discussed by Elders Mansel Garrette and A. F. Allen. Adopted. (See Appendix A.)

Report on Foreign Missions was read and adopted. (B)

Report on the Bible was read and adopted. (C)

The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted. (D)

Report of District Evangelist was read and adopted. (E)

Report on Sabbath Schools was read, and after able and appropriate remarks by Elders Mansel Garrette, A. T. Allen, and brethren W. M. Daniel and J. G. Nall, was adopted. (F)

Report on Obituaries. The committee being absent a new committee was appointed, as follows : W. M. Daniel, J. L. Haynes and N. C. Kennedy.



Report on Family Religion was read, and discussed by Elders M. Garrette, A. F. Allen, D. N. Hembree, and Bro. J. L. Haynes. Adopted. (G)

The Committee on Preaching reported, brethren W. H. Preston and J. W. Stephens to preach at 11 A. M.

Report on Temperance was called for. The committee being absent, a new committee was appointed as follows: R. C. A. Ashcraft, T. W. Newsom, J. G. Nall.

Report on Publications was read, and on motion, an essay on the Bible and the Duty of Man, written by D. N. Hembree, was heard. Report adopted. (H)

A Committee on Finance was appointed, as follows: W. W. Payne, George Sanders, N. T. Leverette, J. Smith Armstrong, J. H. Morris.

On motion, by J. C. Bean, adjourned to 1 P. M.

Re-assembled in the house at the appointed hour. Called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Bro. R. C. A. Ashcraft.

Report on Obituaries was read and adopted. (I)

Correspondents were appointed to sister Associations. To—

Carey—Brethren W. M. Garrette, T. H. Howle, J. C. Bean, J. S. Moore, J. L. Haynes, George Sanders, R. C. A. Ashcraft, J. W. Stephens.

Coosa River—A. F. Allen, J. C. Bean, W. W. Payne.

Harmony—F. M. Campbell, N. C. Kennedy.

Arbaccochee—W. H. Preston, J. G. Robinson, N. C. Kennedy, J. H. Ables, F. M. Campbell, J. A. Shadix, J. H. Morris, J. A. Thrash.

Ten Island and Tallaschatchie—D. N. Hembree, W. N. Bean, J. W. Chandler, R. G. Davis, W. Odell.

Reference was called for.

Report of the Constitutional Committee was read and recommended.

The Moderator requested J. A. Wright to act as Clerk *pro tem.*, the Clerk being on the Constitutional Committee.

The Preaching Committee reported, brethren J. G. Robinson and W. M. Garrette to preach at candle light.

Report of the Constitutional Committee was read and adopted. (J)

Adjourned till 9 A. M. to-morrow.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by J. G. Robinson,

Renewed the call for correspondents; received Elder J. W. Knowles, from the Carey Association.

Called for Report on Temperance, which was read, and discussed by Elders M. Garrette, A. F. Allen, F. M. Campbell, Brethren W. H. Preston and J. H. Ables. Adopted. (K)

Report on Queries was read and adopted. (L)

On motion, a letter of dismission was granted to Corinth church.

Committee on Preaching reported Elders M. Garrette and F. M. Campbell to preach at 11 o'clock.

On motion, A. F. Allen and Jesse Robison were added to the Committee to Answer Queries.

Appointed Brethren J. S. Armstrong and J. C. Bean to assist in distributing the minutes.

Report of Committee to Answer Queries was read and adopted. (M)

Adjourned for refreshments.

2 O'CLOCK.

The Association reassembled in the house, and was led in prayer by W. H. Preston.

Preaching Committee reported, W. A. Scott and J. T. Dame-ret to preach at 3 o'clock.

On motion, the following committee was appointed to visit Mount Olive church, she being not represented for three meetings: John Thompson, W. B. Matthews and Hughlon Preston.

Heard reports of ministers.

A prayer was offered in behalf of the churches, by Elder Mansel Garrette.

Report on Finance was read and adopted. (N)

Treasurer's Report was read and adopted. (O)

Bro. J. G. Nall was chosen to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session of this body, H. C. Knight alternate; Elder A. F. Allen to preach the Missionary Sermon, Elder J. M. Barrette alternate.

Committee on Preaching reported Brethren E. M. Moore and J. M. Barrette to preach at candle light; Elders J. W. Knowles and T. H. Howle to preach the Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

#### SABBATH EXERCISES.

Prayer meeting by the Association, conducted by Elder Mansel Garrette.

11 O'CLOCK A. M.

The Missionary Sermon was preached by Elder J. W. Knowles, followed by Elder T. H. Howle, from Mat. 17:5—Text, "Hear ye Him."

Sang a hymn, took the parting hand, and were led in prayer by Bro. J. W. Stephens. Adjourned to meet with Pleasant Grove church Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1883.

ELDER T. H. HOWLE, *Moderator*.

JAS. H. FULLERTON, *Clerk*.

J. C. BEAN, *Treasurer*.



The general meeting of the First District will be held at Providence church on Friday before the third Sabbath in July, 1883.

The general meeting of the Second District will be held with Pleasant Hill church on Friday before the first Sabbath in August, 1883.

The general meeting of the Third District will be held with Ramah church on Friday before the third Sabbath in July, 1883.

### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

1. *Resolved*, That this Association change its time of meeting to Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September of each year.

2. *Resolved*, That a committee of two be appointed to assist the Clerk in distributing the minutes.

3. *Resolved*, That this Association is in profound sympathy with all movements which look to the suppression of the sale and drinking of intoxicating liquors.

4. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Association that the repeated desecration of the Sabbath day by members going to and from market, is totally at variance with the sacred Scriptures, and not to be tolerated.

5. *Resolved*, That every minister of this Association be requested to have as many as two appointments each month during the next Associational year, and report to this body the amount of labor performed by him, at the next regular session.

6. *Resolved*, That resolutions numbered three, four and five be made standing resolutions.

7. *Resolved*, That the several churches of this Association be requested at an early day to send up vouchers to the Executive Committee as a base for Missionary enterprise in our bounds for the ensuing year.

8. *Resolved*, That the next session of this body be held with Pleasant Grove Church, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1883.

9. *Resolved*, That we tender our thanks to Union Church and the surrounding community for their kind hospitality shown us during this session.

10. *Resolved*, That we recognize the minority of Union Church as being the true church at Union.

### STANDING COMMITTEES TO REPORT NEXT YEAR.

Domestic Missions.—J. G. Nall, J. A. Wright and W. W. Payne.

Foreign Missions.—A. F. Allen, Jessie Robison and H. C. Knight.

The Bible.—D. N. Hembree, A. J. Smith and B. Millsaps.

Obituaries.—R. C. A. Ashcraft, D. B. Woodward and J. L. Haynes.

To Receive Queries.—E. Miller, W. M. Daniel and S. J. Armstrong.

To Answer Queries.—J. M. Barrette, J. W. Chandler and J. A. Thrash.

Family Worship.—J. W. Stephens, John Thompson and W. H. Taylor.

Temperance.—F. M. Campbell, W. J. Campbell and J. H. Morris.

Sabbath Schools.—W. O. Jenkins, J. H. Fullerton and W. B. Matthews.

Publications.—W. H. Preston, W. M. Garrette and H. G. Preston.

Executive Business.—W. N. Bean, George Sanders and N. T. Leverette.

### REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS. (A)

We, your Committee on Domestic Missions, submit the following: We are thankful to God that we have it to report that there are no destitute churches within our boundary. Respectfully submitted.

W. M. GARRETTE, Chairman.

## REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS. (B)

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to make the following report: We regret that the spirit of Missions is at a low ebb in this Association, and see no signs of its revival, but we hope it will not remain so. A cause so great and just, and of so much interest to mankind, will not remain dormant while the Redeemer's cause is of such vast importance to the world. We feel that the cause of Missions has, in times past, been the means of bringing many souls from darkness to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, and turning them from nature to grace. It calls for an effort on the part of the churches to see that the Gospel is preached in the distant lands and to continue to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation to every creature. Brethren, if we are Missionary Baptists let us prove our faith by our works—for faith without works is dead—by sending the Gospel to distant lands and supporting it. Let us do more for the cause of Christ, for Christ says in His word, "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord," and He will repay him fourfold. Brethren, if we can take God for security, let us come up and cast our mite into the treasury; but if not, let us say no more that we are Missionary Baptists and that we take the word of God for the man of our counsel. May God help us to understand His word.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

## REPORT ON THE BIBLE. (C)

Your Committee on the Bible submit the following: The Bible is the word of God. In it he makes known to man his character and will. It is given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit and is profitable to all, teaching men what to believe, showing them in what they are wrong, instructing them in what is right. A knowledge of this book is more to be desired than fine gold, for in understanding, believing and obeying there is great reward, both here and hereafter. We should read it daily, praying God to teach us rightly to understand it, to believe and obey its precepts; it will be life to our souls, and wisdom unto salvation. There is a peculiar superhuman spirit appearing in the truths and precepts of the priceless record, in the purity and justice of its moral distinctions. Its moral law, which is the only correct standard in morals; its account of the divine solicitude for the sins of men, and the means used to promote upright conduct; its clear ideas of the mercy of the divine Father; its wonderful analysis of the character of man, his state of sin, and the change necessary to salvation; the peculiar character of redeemed souls; the certain punishment of wrong-doing; its divine promises and their influence on the heart; its consolations in trials and sufferings, and its preparation for death,—all of these truths and statements, which are above and beyond the reach of unaided human reason, combine to stamp its divine origin, and to claim our reverence.

W. H. PRESTON, Chairman.

## REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. (D)

Your Committee beg leave to make the following report: The Association having elected a missionary to work in its own destitutions, we have, therefore, done nothing.

J. H. BOWMAN, Chairman.

## EVANGELIST'S REPORT. (E)

Sermons delivered, 202; baptized, 3; visited three destitute churches, viz: Mt. Olive, Sardis and Providence, as often as the Lord would permit; held a protracted meeting at each place, and the churches were much revived, and have called supplies for the next year.

I received from Bethlehem church.....\$17 75

" " Bethsaida " ..... 5 25

" " Hopeful " ..... 3 00

J. W. CHANDLER, Evangelist.

## REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS. (F)

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following report : When we see the great need of Bible knowledge, we ought to be more faithful in working for Sabbath schools. They cause the young and rising generation to read the word of God more than they would and cause them to see their duty to their Creator. The Scriptures say, Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all things will be added to you. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, giving to each his portion in due season. Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they that testify of me. With this we say that each member of this body should do all in his power in this great work of Sabbath schools. Most respectfully submitted,

J. A. SHADIX, Chairman.

## REPORT ON FAMILY RELIGION. (G)

Your Committee on Family Religion beg leave to say that we are incompetent for the task ; yet, feeling that incompetency is not duty, we submit, and ask, What is family worship? It is the evidence of heartfelt religion ; there is no true family worship without heartfelt religion. Men may engage in form, but from a converted heart only comes true and godly worship. All worship is just like the worshipper ; if one is formal the other is formal. There is necessity of regeneration. First seek ye the kingdom of God and his righteousness. First get the Spirit of Jesus Christ in you, then you will be prepared for godly family worship. Everything that does not cure sickness. If your worship is spiritual and godly, you make alive ; if not, you destroy. Then, brethren, let us always keep that commandment : Love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself. Then let us call our children around the hearthstone, together with our neighbors and their children, and impart to them the sweetness of that God-like spirit. Then go from house to house ; let it not stop at our own houses ; let us leave the spirit in our neighbor's house, by impressions, that God's peace may rest upon that family ; the result is, for example : Martha and Mary were not only loved, but their brother was raised from death ; Noah saved from the flood ; Daniel from the den of lions ; the Hebrew children from the burning furnace ; Enoch and Elijah translated ; the shackles fall off of Peter, and the great iron gate opened of itself. Family worship did much for ancient people. What for modern ? It has made friends of enemies, it has cured our aching conscience, stilled our troubles. By the discharge of this duty sinners have been turned to saints, the weak have been made strong, the downcast have been built up, and the cause of Christ made to prosper. In our vicinity we have had a winter prayer meeting from house to house, the result of which was several conversions. Then, brethren and sisters, let us teach our children at home to love God, then our neighbors and all the world, that we may be the faithful stewards of God and hear the welcome applaudit, well done, thou good and faithful servant. All of which we submit,

F. M. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

## REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS. (H)

We, your Committee on Publications, submit the following : While there have been so many able reports made upon this important subject, we are at a loss to recommend any book or paper, except the Bible, seeing that our people are so much in need of Bible information. We would therefore recommend more reading and studying of the Bible, and less novel reading. Then, in offering this report, we would request this body to hear an essay on the Bible and the duty of man, prepared by Bro. D. N. Hembree, in connection with this report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. BARRETTE, Chairman.

## REPORT ON OBITUARIES. (I)

Your Committee on Obituaries submit the following report: Through the mercies of a benign Providence we are blessed with the privilege of meeting at this time without having to record the death of any of our deacons or ministerial brethren.

W. M. DANIEL, Chairman.

## REPORT OF CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE. (J)

Your committee, after examining the records of Union church and all the testimony we could get, find that she has violated the fifth Article of this body in regard to the move of brother H. S. Cockerell, on September 10th, 1881, in relation to calling on sister churches for help, which should have been complied with, as a serious difficulty had arisen in the church.

E. A. SMITH, Chairman.

## REPORT ON TEMPERANCE. (K)

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to submit this as our report: We hardly know what to say on this all important subject, as the subject has been treated by strong and able writers, and yet, we see intemperance prevailing in a great measure in our land. Brethren in Christ and lovers of the cause of Christ, we beseech you to use every possible means in advocating the great principles of temperance.

Brethren, when we look around and see men of talent that ought to be bright and shining lights in the vineyard of our Lord, leading our children and our neighbors' children astray and down the road to destruction, by issuing unto them that king-dethroning, moral destroyer and God dishonoring thing called liquor, ought not our hearts to be stirred to a sense of the duty that we owe to God?

Temperance, brethren, is a principle which God requires of us as his dear children, for he says in his word, "Be ye temperate in all things," and another thing, brethren, that should arouse us to advocate the principle of temperance is that we profess to have knowledge of Christ, to which he says add temperance, and again, we profess to be guided by the Spirit of Christ; if so, let us labor to put it from among us, knowing that the fruit of the Spirit is meekness, temperance; against such there is no law. Respectfully submitted,

R. C. A. ASHCRAFT, Chairman.

## REPORT ON QUERIES. (L)

Your committee submit the following queries:

First—Is an ordained minister of the Gospel following the precepts and examples that he vowed he would follow in his ordination, when he hitches up his team on Sabbath morning and drives by the door of the church that he had been supplying, on the regular day of worship at his church?

Second—Should an ordained minister who has attempted to commit suicide and fails to make any acknowledgments in open Conference, to the church where his membership is, be considered as acting in good faith and order?

Third—Is a Baptist church in good order and acting according to the faith and practice of the Baptist denomination when they call for their supply a minister who is guilty of desecrating the Sabbath day and has used poison for the purpose of destroying his own life?

Fourth—Is it in keeping with Baptist usage, for a Baptist minister or member to invite so-called ministers of other denominations into the stand to officiate in Baptist churches?

Fifth—Is a church in good order when she receives a member into her fellowship who is engaged in the sale of whiskey?

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. W. DAVIS, Chairman,



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO ANSWER QUERIES. (M)

In answer to the first query we say no ; to the Second query no; to the third query no ; to the fourth query no, and to the fifth query no.

Respectfully submitted, J. H. ABLES, Chairman.

## REPORT OF FINANCIAL COMMITTEE. (N)

We find for minutes and Clerk's fee.....\$31 00  
 " " " Evangelist..... 10 00

Total.....\$41 00

N. T. LEVERETTE, Chairman.

## TREASURER'S REPORT. (O)

Received from Finance Committee for minutes and Clerk's fee.....\$ 31 00  
 " " " " " Evangelist..... 10 00

Other collections for Evangelist..... 30 50

Vouchers for Evangelist..... 48 00

Foreign Missions..... 1 55

Home Missions..... 2 00

Total.... \$123 05

J. C. BEAN, Treasurer.

## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

|                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A. F. Allen, Oxford, Ala.         | E. Miller, Oaklone, Ala.     |
| J. M. Barrette, Kentuck, Ala.     | J. G. Nall, Kentuck, Ala.    |
| F. M. Campbell, Chulafinnee, Ala. | J. W. Chandler, Oxford, Ala. |
| T. H. Howle, Delta, Ala.          | W. O. Jenkins, Delta, Ala.   |
| H. C. Knight, Christiana, Ala.    | D. N. Hembree, Kentuck, Ala. |
| W. J. Campbell, Chulafinnee, Ala. | D. J. Dodd, Oakfuskee, Ala.  |
| W. H. Preston, Rocky Mount, Ala.  | J. W. Stephens, Delta, Ala.  |
| J. G. Robertson, Lineville, Ala.  |                              |

## LICENTIATBS.

|                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jere Stephens, Delta, Ala.         | Jessie Robison, Lineville, Ala.  |
| I. N. Daniel, Oakfuskee, Ala.      | W. H. Wright, Oakfuskee, Ala.    |
| W. M. Garrette, Rocky Mount, Ala.  | A. J. Preston, Rocky Mount, Ala. |
| C. C. Barrette, Kentuck, Ala.      | M. R. Dowdy, Kentuck, Ala.       |
| R. C. A. Ashcraft, Lineville, Ala. | B. S. Wilcox, Munford, Ala.      |
| W. E. Morrisson, Oakfuskee, Ala.   |                                  |



## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. The ordained and licensed ministers, together with the lay members who are regularly chosen delegates, and who are in good standing in our union, shall compose the Association; but ministers are not considered delegates, but are considered members, and have the same privilege of debate and vote as other members, and of performing any other duty assigned them by the body.

II. The members so chosen shall produce letters or other evidence from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, together with the state of their churches since their last representation.

III. The members thus chosen and convened shall be called THE BOILING SPRING BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

IV. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, and shall have no power to "lord it over God's heritage," nor infringe on the internal rights of the churches, but shall have power to withdraw from any church proved to be unsound in faith and practice according to the Scriptures; and any church that fails to represent herself for two Associational meetings shall be deemed in disorder. It shall then be the duty of the Association to appoint two or more brethren to visit said church, to ascertain the cause of her delinquency, and report the same to the next Association.

V. If one church commit an offence against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender; and if she fail to obtain satisfaction she shall call the aid of two or more sister churches; and if satisfaction cannot be obtained the aggrieved church may lay the case before the Association for advice; and if a serious difficulty should arise in an individual church, which, after due labor, she cannot reconcile, she may call to her aid two or more churches of her union; and if the difficulty be not then removed it shall be the duty of the church to bring the case before the Association, to be acted on as above prescribed. But the Association shall take cognizance of no case unless a due course of procedure shall have been taken.

VI. Any church desiring admittance into this union, shall petition by letter and messengers, and, if found orthodox, shall be received by the Association, through the Moderator giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

VII. Each church in our union shall have three delegates, until she has fifty members, and then one additional delegate for every twenty-five members after the first fifty.

VIII. Any church has a right to authorize any brother over whom she has jurisdiction, to exercise in public, if in her judgment she may deem him worthy; but in licensing, we recommend the churches to call to their aid experienced members from other churches. In cases of ordination, we recommend that two or more ordained ministers be called to aid in the same, and that a report be made at the next Association.

IX. This Association may correspond with any Baptist benevolent institution she may deem expedient, and shall be considered a co-worker with all the missionary enterprises of the day, as far as authorized or required by the Scriptures.

X. This Association shall have power at the convening of each session to elect a Moderator and Clerk, who shall hold office until the next regular election.

XI. Any amendment may be made to this form of Constitution at any time when two-thirds of the Association may deem it expedient.

XII. Any church wishing a letter of dismission shall make application therefor by letter.



## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet, and on obtaining leave, proceed to speak, not exceeding fifteen minutes at any time, without leave from the Association.
6. The Moderator when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection; and every motion that is made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by him that made it.
8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be first decided on, or withdrawn, before another is offered.
9. When anything is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays.
10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision of the body immediately after it is decided.
11. No person shall depart during the services of the Association without leave.
12. The appellation of Brother shall be used in our addresses to each other.
13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
14. No brother shall be allowed to indulge in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in time of a public speech.
15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided he appoint some other to his seat while he is speaking; but shall not vote unless the Association is equally divided.
16. Any person breaking this decorum, shall be reprov'd at the discretion of the Association, but only on the day the breach is made.
17. All cases coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority of the members present, except the reception of churches in our union, which shall be unanimous.
18. The Rules of Decorum shall be read at the opening of each session of this body.

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## ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES WITH PROOF.

TEXT: 1. We believe in one only true and living God; the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, these three in one: 1st Cor. 8:4; Isaiah 44:6; 45:5, 21. "Thou hast created all things." Rev. 4:11. See Gen. 1:1; Heb. 3:4; Jer. 10:12; Ex. 15:11; Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:11.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only true rule of faith and practice. Proof: 2d Peter 1:21. See Acts 1:16; 3:21; Rom. 3:2; 2d Tim. 3:16. See Heb. 1:1, 2; 2d Peter 3:16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin Rom. 5:12, 14, 19. See Gen. 3:6, 24; Psalms 51:5.

4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and holiness. Proof: Eph. 2:1-3. See Isa. 53:6; Gal. 3:10, 22; Rom. 3:19.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the Truth. Proof: John 3:16. See Eph. 2:4-10; 1st John 4:10; Phil. 2:6, 7. See Heb. 2:15, 16.

6. We believe that sinners are justified, in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ. Proof: Titus 3:7. See Phil. 3:9; Rom. 5:1,5,9; Gal. 2:16,19.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and not finally fall away. Proof: Matt. 10:22. See John 10:28,29; 4:14,17; 2:3.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe the true mode of Baptism is Immersion. Proof: Matt. 28:20; Acts 2:42; Mark 1:4,9.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and general judgment. Acts 24:15; Luke 14:14; John 5:28; Matt. 13:49; 24:31; 25:32.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. Proof: Matt. 25:46. See Psalms 9:17; Dan. 12:2.

11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as has been called of God and regularly baptized and approved by the church and come under imposition of hands by a presbytery.

12. We believe that none but believers have a right to the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper.

# STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE CHURCHES.

| CHURCHES.       | COUNTY.      | PASTORS.         | POSTOFFICE.  | CLERKS' ADDRESS. | Clerk's Fee.  | Minute fund. | Sabb of meeting. | Total. | Died. | Excluded. | Dismiss'd by letter. | Restored. | Rec'd by letter. | Rec'd by Baptism. |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|--------|-------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| Third Dist.     | Second Dist. | First District.  |              |                  |               |              |                  |        |       |           |                      |           |                  |                   |
| Bethlehem.      | Cleburne.    | A. F. Allen.     | Oxford.      | J. C. Bean.      | Oxford, Ala.  | 142          | 43 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 3                    | 1         | 13               | 9                 |
| Ebenezer.       | Talladega.   | J. G. Nall.      | Kentuck.     | W. F. Wade.      | Kentuck.      | 38           | 21 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 2                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Hopeful.        | Talladega.   | Dissolved.       | Kentuck.     | A. Wright.       | Kentuck, Ala. | 3            | 9 11             | 2      | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Salt Creek.     | Talladega.   | J. V. Rhodes.    | Kentuck.     | W. Odell.        | Oxford.       | 33           | 21 25            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Mt. Pisgah.     | Cleburne.    | J. W. Chandler.  | Buckeye.     | T. W. Newsom.    | Buckeye.      | 62           | 31 30            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Union.          | Clay.        | J. A. Shadix.    | White Cloud. | J. T. Millsaps.  | White Cloud.  | 43           | 21 70            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Providence.     | Talladega.   | J. M. Barrette.  | Munford.     | A. B. Limbough.  | Munford.      | 25           | 31 20            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Sardis.         | Talladega.   | J. W. Chandler.  | Oaklone.     | N. T. Leverette. | Oaklone.      | 17           | 55               | 50     | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Bethel.         | Clay.        | W. T. Davis.     | Chilannee.   | J. H. Ables.     | Chilannee.    | 74           | 22 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Bethesda.       | Cleburne.    | J. W. Chandler.  | Chilannee.   | J. B. Campbell.  | Chilannee.    | 31           | 41 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Hephzibah.      | Cleburne.    | F. M. Campbell.  | Oakfuskce.   | J. H. Campbell.  | Oakfuskce.    | 90           | 31 75            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Pleasant Hill.  | Cleburne.    | J. W. Campbell.  | Chilannee.   | J. M. Campbell.  | Chilannee.    | 95           | 12 50            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| New Harmony.    | Cleburne.    | J. W. Campbell.  | Chilannee.   | Larkin Busby.    | Chilannee.    | 53           | 2 00             | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Corinth.        | Kandolph.    | W. H. Preston.   | Rocky Mt.    | J. H. Bonan.     | Oakfuskce.    | 38           | 41 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Christiana.     | Clay.        | J. A. Shadix.    | Christiana.  | J. L. Haynes.    | Christiana.   | 49           | 41 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Pleasant Grove. | Clay.        | C. C. Knight.    | Limeville.   | M. McClintock.   | Limeville.    | 89           | 22 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Good Hope.      | Clay.        | I. H. Howle.     | Delta.       | W. M. Hardy.     | Delta.        | 58           | 11 50            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Mt. Olive.      | Clay.        | Not represented. | Delta.       | J. H. Hardy.     | Delta.        | 55           | 22 15            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Mt. Moriah.     | Clay.        | T. H. Howle.     | Delta.       | J. H. Hardy.     | Delta.        | 72           | 32 00            | 1 00   | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |
| Kamah.          | Clay.        | T. H. Howle.     | Delta.       | J. H. Hardy.     | Delta.        | 50           | 50               | 50     | 1     | 1         | 1                    | 1         | 1                | 1                 |

RECAPITULATION—Baptized, 64; received by letter, 62; restored, 12; dismissed by letter, 106; excluded, 14; dead, 11; total membership, 1,194.





